

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-05 IO-11 /082 W

----- 090444

R 140935Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2746

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION US BERLIN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

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FOR POLADS

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS GW

SUBJ: BAADER-MEINHOF TRIAL MOVES ON IN NEW YEAR WITH OLD  
TACTICS

REF: 75 STUTTGART 1164

1. BAADER-MEINHOF DEFENSE LAWYERS CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR POST-  
PONEMENT OF THE TRIAL, CLAIMING PROSECUTION'S INTENTION TO  
INTRODUCE TESTIMONY OF "BOMB BUILDER" WITNESS DIEREK HOFF ON  
JANUARY 22 PROVIDES INADEQUATE TIME TO PREPARE DEFENSE. RE-  
JECTING DEFENSE PLEA TO DELAY THE TRIAL AT LEAST TWO MONTHS,  
THE COURT AGREED ON POSTPONEMENT OF HOFF TESTIMONY UNTIL JAN-  
UARY 27. (NOTE: HOFF ALLEGED TO HAVE MADE BOMBS USED IN  
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HEIDELBERG AND FRANKFURT IN WHICH SEVERAL PERSONS WERE KILLED.)

2. THE TRIAL CONTINUES TO GENERATE HEATED EXCHANGES, WITH TWO HECKLERS EJECTED FROM THE COURTROOM ON JANUARY 12. THESE INCIDENTS PERMIT DEFENDANTS TO POSTPONE THEIR PROJECTED "EXPLANATION". MEANWHILE, LOCAL POLICE CONTACTS CONTINUE TO PROFESS A CERTAIN UNEASINESS WITH RELATIVE CALM IN PUBLIC ACTIVITIES OF TERRORISTS IN GERMANY FEELING, WITHOUT ANY HARD EVIDENCE, THAT THIS CALM MUST ALMOST CERTAINLY BE BROKEN BY SOME UNDEFINED INCIDENT.

3. COMMENT: USING OLD TACTICS INTO THE NEW YEAR, THE DEFENSE HAS SUCCEEDED IN ASSURING LITTLE PROGRESS IN THE NINE-MONTH-OLD TRIAL. IN ADDITION TO SUCCESSFUL DEFENSE MANEUVERING, HOWEVER, THE PROSECUTION HAS BEEN CONVINCED IT MUST COLLECT AND PRESENT MASSIVE QUANTITIES OF CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE TO OBTAIN CONVICTION, AND THIS HAS BEEN PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SNAIL'S PACE OF THE TRIAL. IF SOME OF THIS CAN BE ELIMINATED THROUGH EXPERT WITNESS TESTIMONY, SUCH AS THAT WHICH MIGHT BE PROVIDED BY HOFF, THE PACE MIGHT PICK UP. SKEPTICS ARE ALREADY PROPHECYING, HOWEVER, THAT THE TRIAL MAY MOVE SLOWLY THROUGH 76 AND ON INTO ANOTHER NEW YEAR. JENKINS

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
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